

## Join us for some fun, Fishing in the Parks!

Catch some fishing fun with friends and family this summer at a Michigan State Park, Recreation Area or State Harbor that is hosting a weekly Fishing in the Parks program.

Our experienced, friendly instructors will help you learn all the basics. After the 20- to 30-minute lesson, you'll be ready to go fishing!



The instruction and fishing is **FREE!** Persons under age 17 don't need a license. You can bring your own equipment or if you don't have a rod and reel, don't worry, we'll supply everything you'll need.

The program begins in June and runs through the summer.



For more details and a list of participating parks, visit [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr) and click on the **Recreation & Camping** link.

## Exceptions to General Regulations by County

Many water bodies have special regulations that differ from the general regulations for Hook and Line Fishing (Table 3, p. 10), General Netting Regulations (Table 5, p. 12), and Bow and Spear Fishing (Table 6 p. 12). The following is a list of waters, organized by county, with special regulations **that are NOT included in the following sections of the Fishing Guide**: General Regulations tables cited above; Special Northern Pike and Muskellunge Regulations (p. 11); Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Regulations (p. 13); and Sylvania Wilderness Area Regulations (p. 14).

**ALGER:** **Towes Cr. and W. Br. Whitefish R.** from lamprey barrier to signs 500 ft. downstream open to dipping April 1 - May 31. **Au Train R. to Au Train L.** open to burbot netting Dec. 15 - end of February **Rock R.** closed to fishing from dam to lower foot bridge downstream from M-28 (T47N, R21W, Sec. 15) April 1 - June 30. **Duck and Echo Lks.** (Grand Island) No spearing permitted; fishing restricted to artificial lures only; live, dead, or preserved baits, scented material, or organic food may not be used; catch and release on smallmouth bass; possession limit on all other species is 5 fish in any combination.

**ALLEGAN:** **Swan Cr.** from mouth to dam at 118th Ave. fishing restricted to one single-pointed unweighted hook not more than 3/8" from point to shank; from mouth upstream to diversion dam ("The Tubes," T2N, R14W, Sec. 9) closed to fishing Sept. 1 - Nov. 30. **Osterhout L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**ALPENA:** **Beaver L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Fletcher Floodwaters** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to spearing all other species.

**ANTRIM:** **Birch L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. **Intermediate R.** closed to fishing from Bellaire Dam to M-88 Bridge April 1 - May 14.

**ARENAC:** **Saganing Cr.** (upstream from State Rd.) and **Pine R.** (upstream from State Rd.) closed to fishing March 16 - Fri. before last Sat. in April. **Au Gres R. and Rifle R.** from end of Steve's Rd., (T19N, R5E, Sec. 9), upstream are closed to dip netting.

**BARAGA:** **CRAIG LAKE STATE PARK** waters (**Clair, Craig, Crooked, Keewayden, Nelligan, Teddy, and Thomas Lks.**) artificial lures only; northern pike, muskellunge, largemouth bass, and smallmouth bass must be released, minimum size on walleye is 13", no size limit on other species; possession limit on walleye is 2; otherwise, all general rules apply. Motorboats of all types prohibited on all except Thomas and Keewayden Lks.; **Sturgeon R.** from Prickett Dam downstream to mouth of Clear Cr. (T50N, R35W, Sec. 12) closed to all fishing April 1 - June 30; open to burbot netting downstream from the M-38 Bridge Dec. 15 - end of February.

**BARRY:** **Williams L.** open season is **last Sat. in April - Dec. 15**, catch and release only. **Thornapple L.** (from McKeown Rd. to Barger Rd.) and **Fish L.** closed to all spearing except carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15.

**BAY:** **Kawkawlin R.** and all tributaries upstream of Euclid Ave., and **Saganing Cr.** (upstream from State Rd.) and **Pine R.** (upstream from State Rd.) closed to fishing March 16 through the Fri. before the last Sat. in April. On the **Kawkawlin R.** downstream from Euclid Ave. and the **Saginaw R.** and all tributaries, the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnows may be used on both the **Saginaw R.** main stem and **Kawkawlin R. main stem**); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be attached rigidly to hooks; no hook may

## Exceptions to General Regulations by County

be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

**BENZIE:** **Platte R.** restricted to only one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank; closed to fishing within 300 ft. of upper (hatchery) and lower weir all year; closed to fishing from upper weir downstream to Platte L. Jan. 1 - March 31. **Betsie R.** closed to fishing all year within 100 feet of lamprey barrier and fish passage facility (T25N, R15W, Sec. 2). **Cold Cr.** closed to dip netting.

**BERRIEN:** No more than 1 walleye 23" or larger may be possessed from the **St. Joseph R.** below Berrien Springs Dam to the mouth at St. Joseph/Benton Harbor. **Townsend Cr. (T6S, R17W, Sec. 19, and the mouth area of Lake Chapin, to a point 100 yards below the Townsend Cr. mouth into Lake Chapin), it is unlawful to use other than one single-pointed, unweighted hook measuring 3/8" or less from point to shank.**

**CASS:** **Corey and Stone Lks.**, minimum size limit on largemouth bass is 10".

**CHARLEVOIX:** **L. Charlevoix** and tributaries to 1/2 mile above their mouth open to hand nets for bowfin, carp, gar, smelt, and suckers, April 1 - May 31. **Medusa Cr.** and area of L. Michigan for a radius of 100' of mouth closed to fishing when weir is in place. **Boyne R.** from mouth upstream to dam in T32N, R5W, Sec. 5 restricted to one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank. On L. Michigan, within one-half mile of the following islands of the **Beaver Island Archipelago: Beaver, Garden, High and Hog** the open season for largemouth and smallmouth bass is July 1 - Dec. 31 (no catch and release season prior to July 1).

**CHEBOYGAN:** **Cheboygan R., Indian R., or Black R.** unlawful to fish during **April 1 - June 15** with spear, bow and arrow, dip net, or gaff. **Black R.** between Kleber Dam and Red Bridge (T35N, R1E, Sec. 5) unlawful to fish in any manner during **April 1 - June 15**. **Lower Black R.** from Alverno Dam down to Mograin Bridge, no fishing April 1 - May 15. **Black L.** and tributaries no commercial minnow take; sturgeon fishing prohibited except under special lottery permit (see p. 11). **Douglas L. Pike Marsh** closed to fishing when marsh is in operation. **Cornwall Impoundment** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Tower Pond** northern pike spearing permitted during January - February through the ice.

**CHIPPEWA:** **Potagannissing R.** from Potagannissing Dam downstream to Maxton Rd. (T42N, R6E, Sec. 15) closed to fishing March 16 - May 14. **L. Huron and St. Marys R.**, yellow perch minimum size is 7". **Caribou L.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**CLARE:** **Budd L.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**CLINTON:** **L. Ovid**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**CRAWFORD:** **Wakeley L.** open season June 15 - Aug. 31, catch and release fishing with artificial lures; live bait in possession is unlawful. **Jones L.** open season June 1 - Sept. 30, catch and release fishing with artificial lures; live bait in possession is unlawful.

**DELTA:** **Dana L.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; and northern pike may be speared Jan. 1 - end of February; closed to all other spearing. **Days R.** from lamprey barrier downstream 500', **Escanaba R.** from mouth upstream to 1st dam, **Ford R.** downstream from Jaeger Rd., **Rapid R.** from Rapid R. falls down to County Rd. S. 15, open to

(continued on page 18)

## Visit a State Fish Hatchery!

*State Fish Hatchery Visitor Centers are dedicated to providing visitors with the opportunity to learn about fish, their life cycles and habitats; and the history of Great Lakes fish hatcheries and the vital role they play in helping to protect and restore our aquatic ecosystems.*



- \* See and feed chinook salmon, steelhead trout, walleye and many more species from viewing piers at the hatchery "show ponds."
- \* Interpretive exhibits and interactive displays
- \* Self-guided hiking and nature trails



With full-time interpreters at Wolf Lake and Oden, visitors can take a guided hatchery tour, enjoy summer fishing days, attend year-round programs and special events, and have a great time discovering that fishing is fun!

Go to [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr) and click on **Education and Outreach**



## Exceptions to General Regulations by County

hand nets for smelt and suckers April 1 - May 31. **Whitefish R.** down-stream from US-2 walleye season May 15 - March 15; possession limit 5, but no more than 1 over 23". **Little Bay de Noc** north of the Saunders Pt.-Squaw Pt. line and tributaries, spearing is permitted only during January and February. **Little Bay de Noc** north of a line from Peninsula Point lighthouse to the mouth of the Ford R.; walleye possession limit 5, but no more than 1 over 23". **Garden Corners Borrow Pit** (T40N, R18W, Sec. 3) and **Rapid R. Borrow Pit** (T41N, R21W, Sec. 5) closed to fishing all year. **L. Michigan** the minimum size limit on splake is 15" on the L. Michigan waters of Delta County.

**DICKINSON:** See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.13). **Fumee L.** county ordinance currently prohibits access for the purpose of fishing. However, the following regulations remain in effect: open season July 1 - Sept. 30; catch and release only; artificial lures with barbless hooks only; live bait, dead or prepared bait, organic or processed food, or scented material may not be used or possessed on the waters or shore. **Hamilton, Louise, and Mary Lks.**, possession limit for largemouth and smallmouth bass from the last Sat. in May - June 20 is 0.

**EMMET:** **Bear R.** from mouth upstream to Lake Street Dam (T34N, R5W, Sec. 6) restricted to one single-pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank.

**GENESEE:** **Flint R.** downstream from the Holloway Dam and all tributaries, the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnows may be used upstream of Hamilton St. Dam and all respective tributaries T7N, R7E, S7); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be rigidly attached to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

**GOGEBIC:** See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.13). **Sylvania Wilderness Area** regulations (see p. 14).

**GRAND TRAVERSE:** **Boardman R.** closed to fishing whenever weir is in place from 300' above to 300' below; closed to fishing Sept. 1 - Oct. 31 from north Union Street Bridge in Traverse City downstream to US-31 Bridge. **Unnamed Cr.** closed to dip netting from Green L. upstream to Bridges L.

**HOUGHTON:** **Portage L. Ship Canal** spearing permitted in January, February only. **Portage L.** and canal, **Torch L.** for 1/2-mile above mouth open to dip netting Apr. 1 - May 31. **Sturgeon R.** open to burbot netting Dec. 15 - end of February.

**IONIA:** **Woodard L.** possession limit for walleye is 0.

**IOSCO:** **Au Gres R.** from M-65 to mouth dip netting prohibited. **Au Gres R.** from 50' upstream of Allen Rd. bridge to 500' downstream closed to all fishing March 16 - Fri. before last Sat. in April. **E. Br. Au Gres R.** between DNR lamprey barrier and Legget Rd. closed to fishing Dec. 1 - Fri. before last Sat. in April. **Au Sable R.** from Foote Dam (including the apron) to 175' downstream from the dam closed to fishing all year. **Van Etten Cr.** from dam at Van Etten L. to mouth at Au Sable R. closed to fishing Aug. 15 - Nov. 30.

**IRON:** **Brule, Chicagon, Chief Edwards, Paint, and Violet Lks., and Paint Pond,** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; and northern pike may be speared Jan. 1 - end of February; closed to all other spearing. **Cable, Emily, Porter, Stanley Lks.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Winslow L.** walleye possession limit is 0. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.13). **Chicagon and Ottawa Lks.,**

## Exceptions to General Regulations by County

daily limit of 5 whitefish. **Ottawa L.** possession of largemouth and smallmouth bass is 0.

**ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK** (phone 906-482-0984): Michigan fishing laws apply and state license required on L. Superior waters of park. Artificial baits only on inland waters. On L. Superior, within 4.5 miles of Isle Royale, the possession of brook trout is 0.

**KENT:** **Campau and Murray Lks.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

**KEWEENAW:** **Gratiot L.**, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug 15; closed to all other spearing.

**LAKE:** **Baldwin R.** from Upper Dam at Old Baldwin Hatchery site downstream to the P.A.S. south boundary fence, including raceways (T17N, R13 W, Sec. 3), closed to all fishing Tues. following Labor Day until the last Sat. in April.

**LAPEER:** **Nepessing L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**LEELANAU:** **Leeland R.** closed to fishing Oct. 1 - Nov. 30. **North Manitou L.** bass minimum size length is 18", the possession limit is 1; artificial lures only. **Florence L.** (S. Manitou Is.) artificial lures only. **Houdek Cr.** closed to dip netting.

**LENAWEE:** **L. Hudson,** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**LIVINGSTON:** **Spring Mill Pond** (Island Lake Recreation Area) March 15 - March 31 no fishing; April 1 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April, catch and release of trout with artificial lures only; last Sat. in April - March 14 statewide regulations apply. **Whitmore and Woodland Lks.**, carp may be speared May 1- Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**LUCE:** **Twin Lks.** minimum size limit on largemouth and smallmouth bass is 18", possession limit is 1. Unlawful to launch or retrieve motorized vessel (greater than 5 horsepower) from state land on the **E. Branch Fox R.** from M-28 to the mouth of **Cold Cr.**

**MACKINAC:** **Brevoort L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. **Les Cheneaux Channels** spearing permitted January and February only. **Mackinac, Shephard, and Flower Bays** closed to fishing March 15 - May 14. **L. Huron** yellow perch minimum size is 7".

**MANISTEE:** **Little Manistee R.** 300' either side of weir closed to fishing all year; from 300' above weir to Spencers Bridge closed to fishing Jan. 1 - March 31; also from 300' below DNR weir to mouth closed to fishing Sept. 1-Nov. 14 and Jan. 1 - March 31. **South end of Manistee L.** (south of a line from red post 110 ft. south of boat launch on east side of lake to a red post near south end of Packaging Corp. on west side of lake), closed to fishing Sept. 6 - Oct. 15 or to when the quota of chinook eggs has been taken.

**MARQUETTE:** **Peshekee R.** open to burbot netting Dec. 15 - end of February. **Deer L. Basin, Carp R.** downstream from M-28 (T47N, R27W, Sec. 4), and all other tributaries to Deer L. Basin, possession limit is 0. Fishing restricted to artificial lures, catch and release only; live bait, dead or prepared bait, organic or processed food, or scented materials may not be possessed on the water or the shore. **Fish L.** carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing; largemouth and smallmouth bass minimum size 18" and possession limit is 1 bass only. **Salmon-Trout R.,** from Lower Falls to mouth closed to fishing Aug. 15 - Fri. before last Sat. in April.

**MASON:** **Pere Marquette R.** from 300 feet below lamprey barrier (T18N, R16W, Sec. 21) upstream to Black Cr. closed to fishing when lamprey barrier is in operation. **Sable R.** (from mouth upstream to Hamlin L. Dam) restricted to 1 single - pointed, unweighted hook no larger than 3/8" from point to shank.

## Exceptions to General Regulations by County

**MECOSTA:** Muskegon R./Hardy Impoundment from Roger's Dam downstream to below the south-bound lane of US-131 is closed to all fishing from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April.

**MENOMINEE:** Big Cedar R. down from mouth of Elwood Cr. (T35N, R25W, Sec. 11) open to dipping, April 1 - May 31. See also Michigan-Wisconsin Boundary Waters Regulations (p.13). **L. Michigan** the minimum size limit on splake is 15" on the L. Michigan waters of Menominee County.

**MIDLAND:** Tittabawassee R. between Sanford Dam and mouth of the Salt R. and between Dow Dam and Gordonville Bridge, closed to fishing from March 16 - Fri. before last Sat. in April. **On the Chippewa, Pine, Salt, and Tittabawassee R. and all their tributaries** the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows; natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be rigidly attached to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

**MONROE:** Huron R. and Stony Cr. (downstream from Finzel Rd., T5S, R8E, Sec. 23) closed to dip netting.

**MONTMORENCY:** East Fish, West Fish, and Middle Fish Lks., Fuller Cr. Pond, Hunt Cr. (above Section Z bulkhead T29N, R2E, Sec. 25), and Fuller Cr. (in the Hunt Cr. Trout Research Station Area), no fishing. Fletcher Floodwaters and West Twin L., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. North and South Blue Lks. and Robarge L., open season is the last Sat. in April - Sept. 30, catch and release only, artificial lures only.

**MUSKEGON:** Mona L. carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**NEWAYGO:** Baptist L., possession limit for walleye, channel catfish, flathead catfish, and all bullheads is 0; Brush and Sand Lks., possession limit for channel catfish, flathead catfish, and all bullheads is 0.

**OAKLAND:** Heron and Tipsico Lks, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**OGEMAW:** Jewett L. open season is May 15 - Sept. 30, and fishing is restricted to artificial lures only and catch and release; permit needed in addition to license.

**ONTONAGON:** W. Br. Ontonagon R. from confluence with Victoria Hydro tailrace upstream to Victoria Dam is closed to fishing April 1 - June 10. Union Springs closed to all fishing. Lake of the Clouds fishing restricted to artificial lures only, no bait of any type may be used or possessed, no spearing, catch and release on smallmouth bass (possession of smallmouth prohibited regardless of where taken).

**OTSEGO:** Big Bear and Otsego Lks., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. Otsego L. Pike Marsh closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. Otsego L. see sturgeon regulations (p. 11).

**OTTAWA:** L. Macatawa, carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**PRESQUE ISLE:** Black L. and tributaries no commercial minnow take. Clinton Cr. closed to fishing April - May. Grand L. Pike Marsh unlawful for any person other than state employee to use or operate a motorized vehicle on the access road leading from US-23 to the Grand L. Pike Marsh during March, April, and May. Grand L. Pike Marsh closed to fishing whenever marsh is in operation. Rainy R. from confluence with Black L. upstream to N. Allis Rd. Bridge (T35N,

## Exceptions to General Regulations by County

R2E, Sec. 15) closed to fishing April 1 - May 14. Shuberts Cr. from Long L. upstream to Clinton Cr. Rd. (T33N, R7E, Sec 14), closed to fishing April 1 - May 31. Swan R. from 300' above weir to mouth closed to fishing whenever weir is in place.

**ROSCOMMON:** Backus Cr. from confluence with Cut R. upstream to Little Mud L. Dam closed to fishing March 23 - April 23. Cut R. from confluence with Backus Cr. upstream to outlet at Marl L. closed to fishing March 23 - April 23. Houghton L. no spearing. Denton Cr. closed to fishing March 23 - April 23.

**ST. JOSEPH:** Big Pleasant and Corey Lks., minimum size limit for largemouth bass is 10". Long L. (Fabius Twp.) carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. Sand L., flathead catfish possession limit is 0.

**SAGINAW:** On the Bad, Cass, Flint, Saginaw, Shiawassee and Tittabawassee Rivers and all their tributaries the following regulations apply from March 16 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April: unlawful to fish with artificial baits or minnows (except that minnows may be used on the Saginaw R., Swan Cr. and tributaries, and the Bad R. and tributaries upstream from confluence with Pickerel Cr. T10N, R3E, Sec. 4); natural baits may be fished only on a single-pointed hook with not more than 1/2" between point and shank; weights may not be attached rigidly to hooks; no hook may be attached to the line between any weight and the rod except on an unweighted dropper line at least 3" long; no beads, spinners, or reflectors may be attached to the line within 6" of any hook.

**SCHOOLCRAFT:** Big Bass, Grassy, and McKeever Lks. carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. Thompson Cr. closed to use of handnets; closed to fishing upstream of US-2 from Sept. 1 - Fri. before the last Sat. in April. Seney National Wildlife Refuge waters have limited fishing, contact Refuge office (906-586-9851). On the BIG ISLAND COMPLEX LAKES (Big Island, Bluegill, Blush, Byers, Coattail, Klondyke, McInnes, Mid, Townline, and Vance) no wheeled or motorized vehicles (including electric or outboard motors); artificial lures only; spearing, netting, and use of live bait prohibited; muskellunge or northern pike open season May 15 - Nov. 30, minimum size limit 42", and possession limit is 1; bass open season Sat. before Memorial Day - Nov. 30, minimum size limit 18", and possession limit is 1; perch, bluegill, and pumpkinseed sunfish open season last Sat. in April - Nov. 30, possession limit is 5 fish in combination; all other fish open season last Sat. in April - Nov. 30. Unlawful to launch or retrieve motorized vessel (greater than 5 horsepower) from state land on the E. Branch Fox R. from M-28 to the mouth of Cold Cr.

**VAN BUREN:** Dowagiac R. and tributaries above 50th St. and Lake of Woods outlet to confluence of Dowagiac R. open to spears, bow and arrow, and hand net. Bankson, Brownwood, and Round Lks., carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing.

**WASHTENAW:** Whitmore L. carp may be speared May 1 - Aug. 15; closed to all other spearing. Huron R. from Mast Rd. Bridge in Dexter (T1S, R5E, Sec. 32) downstream to Delhi Rd. Bridge (T2S, R5E, Sec. 2) catch and release only on largemouth and smallmouth bass. Horseshoe L. largemouth bass possession limit is 1, minimum size is 14"; northern pike possession limit is 1, sunfish (Note 5 p.10) possession limit is 10.

**WAYNE:** Huron R. from Belleville Dam downstream to mouth, closed to dip netting.